

WEBSITE MANAGEMENT AND QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR TFFIP DATA

Investigators

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Summary

The multi disciplinary research investigations performed for the Tracy Fish Facility Improvement Program (TFFIP) produce a large amount of data and information from several data acquisition systems, technical reports, and experimental data that need to be centrally managed and peer reviewed in a consistent manner. There is a clear need for communication and sharing of data between researchers from very different technical disciplines, as well as a need to provide web-based “storefront” for program (secured access) and public (open) access to data and reports.

The goal of the Tracy Research Website for TFFIP is to share our research and disseminate findings that will significantly improve fish protection at major water diversions in the south Delta region of the Central Valley of California. The website serves as a compilation of and access point for photos, data, and research reports that are developed to meet the goals of the research program.

As part of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPAI), TFFIP has been asked to participate in the development and implementation of data management protocols, culminating in a Data Acquisition and Management Plan (DAMP). The purpose of the DAMP is to document what data is managed, how it is managed and the purpose of the data. A major component of this effort involves Metadata, which captures the basic characteristics of a dataset or information resource (who, what, when, where, why and how). There are federal standards (FGDC) regarding metadata content, as well as requirements to develop and maintain metadata for all federal programs. As such, a TFFIP-specific DAMP

will be completed and we will begin establishing metadata files for all projects. Standard metadata files will be a required component of all new projects and will be added to existing and historic data as time allows. The metadata will be accessible through the TFFIP website. There will be an emphasis on the effort to update the entire website while developing and incorporating the required metadata standards.

Problem Statement

In conjunction with the TFFIP, there is an ongoing need to provide: (1) archival storage and controlled access for TFFIP researchers to all continuously collected data, research series reports, and data from research reports; (2) public information access via a world wide web site; (3) mechanism for TFFIP researchers, TFCF operators, and TTAT members to compare and analyze data from different sources and disciplines by querying a web-based relational data base; and (4) a structure for quality assurance review and validation of data generated from experiments and data acquisition systems.

Goals and Hypotheses

Goals:

1. Update and modify program information, upload 2013 study plans, and new PDF reports as they become available
2. Continue efforts to create and post standardized metadata for research, beginning with the most recent reports and moving backwards as time allows.
3. Augment photo galleries to include more images.
4. Incorporate site traffic reports (within the limits of BOR website policy). This information can be analyzed to pinpoint strengths, weaknesses and potential areas of improvement of the website design and structure.
5. Coordinate with Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Webmaster to maximize site potential.
6. Update and perform quality check of website on a regular basis to maximize currency and minimize errors, broken links, *etc.*
7. Check website and update for compliance with Visual Identity and annual site certification requirements.

Materials and Methods

This activity will follow all Reclamation Web Standards and Directives as detailed on the BOR intranet: <http://intra.usbr.gov/web/>.

Coordination and Collaboration

The Tracy Webmaster coordinates with TFFIP Manager and Tracy Series Editor on updating of information that is posted on the website including data, images, and Tracy Series volumes and Technical Bulletins. The Tracy Webmaster also works with and coordinates with the TSC and overall Reclamation webmasters and IT personnel to insure that the Tracy website meets all required standards. In addition, the Tracy Webmaster manages inquiries from the public through the website which can either be handled directly or passed on to the appropriate resource for resolution.

Endangered Species Concerns

None.

Dissemination of Results (Deliverables and Outcomes)

We anticipate an updated website in coordination with metadata protocol development and the timely posting of all new Tracy Series volumes and Technical Bulletins. The website will display evidence of current and regular updates. All required certification and standards will be completed and maintained (Section 515, Quality of Information and Section 508, Accessibility).

Literature Cited

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